



NINEPENCE

JUNE 1964

TOC H JOURNAL



PUBLISHED BY TOC H AT 15 TRINITY SQUARE, LONDON, EC3

REPORT OF CENTRAL COUNCIL MEETING

Parties to Belgium

A list of parties to Belgium is given below. Enquiries or applications should be sent direct to the organisers whose addresses are shown.

JULY 27—AUGUST 7, One week at Poperinge and five days in the Ardennes. Excursions include Walcheren Island, Northern France, De Panne: trips on the rivers Meuse and Lesse. CHARLES JACKSON, 23 Beechwood Avenue, Thornton Heath, Surrey (few places available due to cancellations).

AUGUST 29—SEPTEMBER 8, MIXED PARTY, including Bruges and the Ardennes. Miss RUBY RELE, 49 South Road, West Bridgford, Nottingham. (Almost full).

SEPTEMBER 5—12, MIXED PARTY, five days in Bruges and two days at the Old House, including day excursion to Holland. Co-Leaders 'CHES', former Journal Editor, and JOYCE GREEN. Details from the latter, Toc H H.Q., 15 Trinity Square, London, E.C.3.

OCTOBER 5—9, (Mon-Fri) OLD SOLDIERS PARTY, with wives, to Ypres, Arras and Vimy battlefields. (See under "Far Cry")

Acknowledgement

The pictures used to illustrate the account of the Central Council meeting (pages 195, 199, 200, 202, 203, 206, 207, 209) were taken by "Skegg" Blanchard.

Advertisers

Manufacturers of a wide range of articles of interest to our readers will find the JOURNAL pages helpful in making their goods and services known. Enquiries about space and charges will be welcomed by Stan Waters, who handles our advertising, at Messrs. Arthur H. Wheeler & Co., St. Stephen's House, Victoria Embankment, London, S.W.1.

Ourselves

The Toc H JOURNAL is published monthly eleven times a year. The April issue is a double number and there is no August number. A subscription can commence with any issue and costs only 9s. for a complete year.

N.B.—A price concession to 7s. 6d. per dozen, post free, is made to Branches ordering a minimum of one dozen.

JUNE 1964

FORTY-SECOND YEAR OF PUBLICATION



TOC H JOURNAL

Letters and articles are welcomed and are printed as individual points of view and are not necessarily those of the Movement

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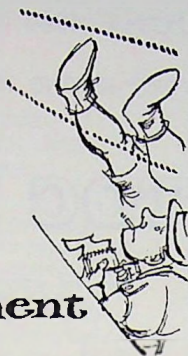
COVER PICTURE: CHIPPING CAMPDEN MUMMERS.
At a North Cotswold District "Tramp Supper" the Campden men gave their own "Merrimix Mumming Play".

*Photograph by courtesy of
Evesham Journal & Four Shires Advertiser*

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IN AND OUT



-notes & comment

IN APRIL THE company aboard the M.S. *Venus*, making an Ecumenical Journey to the Holy Land, included a number of Toc H members, past and present, representing laymen and clergy of various denominations. We received a letter from them, bearing the signatures of more than a dozen men and women, written somewhere in the Mediterranean and dated St. George's Day. They had just held a Toc H meeting at which 'Light' was taken and the speakers were the Bishop of London (a member ever since the days when he was a schoolmaster at Oundle), and Padre COLIN CUTTELL, Vicar of All Hallows.

Ship's Company

THE BRITISH LEPROSY RELIEF Association has changed its short title from Belra to LEpra. In the opinion of their honorary, and very expert, publicity advisers Lepra is a distinctive and descriptive name, very much better for publicity purposes in getting across to the British public in general. Moreover, Lepra is the Greek word for leprosy, and sounds like it. The full title of the Association remains the British Leprosy Relief Association.

Now It's LEpra

DURING THE Easter holidays a Toc H Schools Party about a dozen strong went to Poperinge and did clearance work at the Pool of Peace, the old mine crater on the Messines Ridge. This had become sadly overgrown and as a result of their labours it is now much more of a local beauty spot once again. Before they left the students sent a letter to Herr ULBRICHT of East Germany (with copy to Mr. KHRUSHCHEV), offering their free services for the demolition of the Berlin Wall as yet another contribution to international friendship. No reply has been received so far.

Fair Offer

RECENTLY IN THE South African House of Assembly one of their Members of Parliament stated that never before had there been so many secret organisations in South Africa. He then proceeded

Open

Secret

to enumerate some of them, and included in his list—believe it or not—Toc H. The M.P. concerned has now been put straight about this and has been told that provided he can subscribe to Toc H principles of Christian neighbourliness we should be happy to have him as a member.

THE CHRISTIAN AID SHOP is now open at 167 Sloane Street, London, S.W.1. (a minute from Sloane Square Underground) and a mail-order system is being planned for those unable to

Christian

Aid Shop

visit London. There is an unrivalled choice of craft-made gifts from all over the world with prices ranging from 1s. 3d. to £100. Not only do all the profits go towards Christian Aid projects among the world's neediest people, but also many of the articles sold are the work of men and women who owe their skills to training schemes financed by Inter-Church Aid.

AN INGENIOUS POCKET Braille writer, using only six keys and weighing no more than eighteen ounces, enables blind people to take down notes at speeds of up to a hundred and forty words

Pocket

Braille

per minute. Being silent in use it can be of special value to blind people attending lectures and the tapes can be pasted into books for permanent record. These machines are distributed only through Lions Clubs, at a nominal cost. Any enquiries to Mr. E. C. Peckham of the London Lions Club, Grand Buildings, Trafalgar Square, London, W.C.2, will be passed on to the nearest Lions Club for necessary action.

THE COLOURS OF TOC H, as page 12 of the diary tells us, are black, amber and white. We wonder if occasionally Toc H speakers have gone to the length of discovering some deep significance in this choice. If so the reality may disappoint them.

True

Colours

The origin is said to be that in the very early days a group of young members formed themselves into a Toc H football team. One of the prime movers was W. J. Musters, first Registrar of Toc H and a famous amateur goalkeeper in his day. Being for the most part impecunious, the players rejoiced when 'Mus' announced one day that he had bought cheaply a complete set of new football shirts and stockings originally ordered by some club that had then disbanded. The colours were black, amber and white, and the rest of Toc H has fallen into line ever since!



Yours always,
Barkis

Barclay Baron, O.B.E.

HUBERT SECRETAN

THE PASSING on of 'Barkis' on April 11, a few weeks after his eightieth birthday, while it must needs be a grief to his many friends, is also an occasion for proud thanksgiving. Nothing is here for tears. If ever a man's life radiated love and happiness with the gift of communicating it to others that life was Barkis'.

The Baron family was Cornish in origin. It is said that when his father, a distinguished Bristol physician and sometime Lord Mayor of the city, was passing in a procession of doctors, a visiting anthropologist remarked that his was the finest Phoenician head he had seen in years. Be that as it may, all who have met Barkis have carried away the memory of his fine presence and his splendid head.

Barkis first met Toc H in the Old House at Poperinge when serving in Flanders with the Y.M.C.A. From 1921 until his retirement he served the growing Movement faithfully with mind and heart. His great literary and artistic gifts, which, had he chosen to use them for himself might well have brought him fame, were given with a humbleness that equalled their richness to Toc H and, through it, to the Lord and Master in whose service he found his freedom. As editor of the JOURNAL Barkis made it not only a fine piece of craftsmanship and a chronicle of Toc H but something more. Through its pages men's minds were opened to wider realms of thought and quickened to new vistas of beauty.

The written word was matched by the spoken word in the masques he devised for Toc H festivals and for which he brought together from the wide range of his friendships actors and musicians, humble out of sight stage hands,

mistresses of the wardrobe, all equally delighted to be part of Barkis' team.

It was Barkis who designed the Toc H Lamp, gave it its encircling inscription *In lumine tuo videbimus lumen* (words so appropriate to his own vision) and sent it out across the world as the symbol of Toc H. In all this, as he went about talking to and about Toc H, men found in him skill and humour, love and humility, and above all a great gift of friendship.

But if Toc H was his chief it was not his only love. In Bermondsey 'Barkis' means almost as much as in Toc H. He came to the Oxford & Bermondsey Mission (later Club) as an undergraduate and stayed there as one of that remarkable group of Oxford men that included William Temple, Alec Paterson, Basil Henriques and Donald Hankey, who were irresistibly attracted by John Stansfeld, 'the Doctor', whose life Barkis was himself later to write. He was constantly in and out of the clubs, with a particular affection for 'Dockhead', the roughest of them, served as Warden of the Mission, and wrote for it the hymn familiar to generations of club members. Some will remember his little house in Rotherhithe Street, with its balcony over the tideway, which he restored with loving care and painted on its panels a portrait of the Doctor as St. Nicholas which is now happily preserved in the O.B.C. chapel at Halls Green. He loved the riverside folk and was himself loved in return. To the end of his life mention of Bermondsey would bring into his eyes the light of many precious memories.

Proud of his Quaker antecedents, Barkis was equally at home with the evangelical approach of the O.B.M. and with the dignified ceremonial and music of the Anglican church on Primrose Hill where he worshipped in his latter years. His faith was as wide as it was deep and simple.

Other things that concerned him can only be given a passing mention. *The Challenge* newspaper, inspired by William Temple and edited by Barkis, the Youth Hostels

Association, of which he was a pioneer and first chairman, drawing on his personal knowledge of similar hostels in Germany. As a student in Germany he learnt to love what was best in its heritage, strove manfully to uphold it and felt deeply the prostitution by the Nazis of the nation's best qualities.

But when all is said and done, it is for himself that he will be remembered and loved, not only at home but in many remote corners of the earth—South America, Southern and Central Africa, Hong Kong—that he visited and observed with discerning eyes. To everyone he was just 'Barkis' and he justified the Dickensian name. In all he undertook and in all he adorned, Barkis was always willing.



Christmas Card Competition

IT HAS BEEN decided to hold an open competition for suitable designs for Toc H Christmas Cards for 1965—Jubilee Year.

A prize of £5 is offered for the best entry in each of the following classes:

- (1) A three-colour design of a Nativity or Epiphany scene, whether in traditional or original concept.
- (2) A black-and-white photographic subject related in any way to the Christmas theme.

Closing date for entries, which should be sent to the Editor at Toc H Headquarters, is December 31, 1964. It should be clearly understood that Toc H will be in no way bound to use either of the winning entries if they are not felt to be of a suitably high standard.

Artists and photographers, go to it!

THE EDITOR

On Ceremony

II.—Words and Acts

JOHN CALLF

The Symbolic Act—The Ceremony.

ALTHOUGH WE MAY ACCEPT the Lamp as the fitting symbol of Toc H that does not necessarily commit us to any ceremonial act involving lighting the Lamp in a darkened room.

Those who say we do need a ceremony would maintain that we need some unifying act all the more because of our rich diversities of age, outlook, purpose, temperament, denomination, occupation, and so on. Our meetings very often reveal our wide divergencies and therefore it may seem good that at one point in every meeting all our attention should converge on that tiny flame in the darkness: the focal point at which all our diversities become a deep unity. One can imagine, for instance, that a Branch of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents would need no ceremony at its meetings. They are there for one purpose only and their divergencies in all other matters are irrelevant. They meet to help prevent accidents and they know exactly what they have come for and would not need to be reminded of this fact by performing some kind of ceremony. But because Toc H is such a rich mixture of people, who may have different angles even on Toc H itself, there may seem all the more need for a unifying ceremony focused on the Toc H symbol itself.

The Words

Why not just light the Lamp and all stand in silence for two minutes, each thinking his own thoughts? At the end of which the Lamp is extinguished, and the lights are put on

again. Would that help more, or less, than some recital of words? This surely is at least worth thinking about.

If we do need words, what sort of words? What should they be meant to convey? Remembrance—why? Does this run the risk of turning us into a backward-looking Movement, more interested in the ‘good old days’ and ‘the giants of the past’ than in present performance and future performers?

Rededication—why? Does it mean anything? Does it do anything to us? Does this collective act influence our performance in any way, or would we do the things (or not do them) just the same in any case?

Consider if there is any other expression of feelings which might properly find a place in any comprehensive form of words. Penitence, for example?

Arguments in Favour

Those of us who would support the inclusion of acts of remembrance and rededication in our ceremony would argue that they represent the essence of Toc H. We are pledged to preserve a spirit and to transmit it to future generations. It is not the spirit of backward-looking, but the sense of being part of some continuing process. “Other men have laboured, enter ye into their labours”, is how the Bible puts it. Or, as Toc H puts it more breezily—“Hats off to the past, coats off to the future!”

In any satisfactory ceremony each word must justify its place and convey something. What are our ideas of basic requirements? Here are some thoughts to begin with:

(a) It should be simple and self-explanatory. A ceremony that needs explanation before it takes place is surely defective. And if the explanation is badly done it destroys the effectiveness of the ceremony before it has even taken place.

(b) It should be universal, capable of translation into other languages without loss of power. If Toc H, as some of

us hope, becomes more international in future years, will our present ceremony be a difficulty? We already know that it cannot bear translation into the Indian vernacular for our Indian units. Would it be any better for Dutch or Norwegians, for example?

(c) It should be timeless—i.e. it should not 'date' by being too much tied to one point in history.

(d) Should it be an original creation, not borrowed or adapted from something else? Should it be the product of one poetic mind, from someone filled with the inwardness of Toc H? No committee could fashion it.

What other conditions can you think of?

“Starting Up”

Being announcements of places where new units are beginning, with the address of the local 'key man' or other person to whom all correspondence or commendation should be sent.

Amlwch. Key man: Arthur Oldfield, 22 Mona Street, Amlwch, Anglesey.

Bala. Key man: R. W. Hughes, Barclays Bank House, Bala, Merionethshire.

Bangor. Key man: the Rev. Glyndwr Williams, c/o Church Hostel, Bangor, North Wales.

Didcot. (Joint) Key man: L. D. Smaje, Le Bois Restaurant, Station Road, Didcot, Berks.

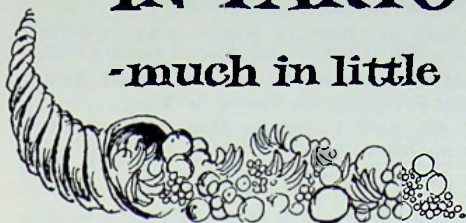
Kirkheaton. Key man: J. Roberts, 31 Fields Way, Kirkheaton, Huddersfield, Yorks.

Shanklin. c/o W. F. Brooker, Talbot House, Queen's Way, Southampton.

Winchester. c/o W. F. Brooker, Talbot House, Queen's Way, Southampton.

MULTUM IN PARVO

-much in little



✧ COL. JOHN DAVIES has been re-elected Chairman and Dr. S. F. MITCHELL and W. HUGH BEETON Joint Vice-Chairmen of the Central Executive for 1964-1965.

✧ W. A. (TONY) LEE (Hackney Branch, Eastern London Area, Warden, Prideaux House, Mark III) and G. A. (BOB) TABERSHAM (Wallingford (Joint) Branch, Oxford & Thames Valley Area) have been co-opted as members of the Central Executive.

✧ DIARY DATES: KENT AREA FESTIVAL, Tunbridge Wells, June 13. SUSSEX AREA DAY, Heatherley Cheshire Home, near East Grinstead, June 14.

✧ "THE PROBLEM OF AFTER-CARE." A week-end conference organised by the Institute for the Study and Treatment of Delinquency will be held at Elfinward, Haywards Heath, Sussex, October 9-11. Those interested are invited to enquire further of the I.S.T.D. direct at 8 Bourdon St., W.1. (Tel.: Mayfair 3472).

✧ CALLING JOBSTERS AND PILOTS. There are still a few places at Dor Knap for your week-end July 24-26. Early application to CYRIL CATTELL at Headquarters is advised and will be welcomed.

✧ "ON LEADING DISCUSSIONS." The very successful week-end conference on this theme at Dor Knap earlier this year was over-subscribed. A repeat performance (everyone taking part) is planned for September 25-27, and CYRIL CATTELL will be glad to have, as soon as possible, the names of those wishing to be included.

✧ PEOPLE TO PEOPLE WEEK, NOVEMBER 15-21. This is the special opportunity, much valued already by some Branches, for encouraging friendship between British families and people from other countries living in Britain. Branches sponsoring (in conjunction with other organisations) social and other activities during the period, may well find this leads to lasting new friendships.

Elder Brethren

ABRAHAM.—On March 20, FRANK PIBWORTH ABRAHAM, aged 74, a member of Sandown Branch. Elected 3.1.'33.

BARON.—On April 11, BARCLAY BARON, O.B.E. ('Barkis'), aged 80, first Editor of the Toc H Journal. Elected January 1922.

BRODIE.—On March 3, ROBERT HECTOR MACDONALD BRODIE, aged 62, a member of Selkirk Branch. Elected 7.2.'62.

BROTHERIDGE.—On April 1, THOMAS MARTIN BROTHERIDGE, aged 71, a member of Dalton-in-Furness Branch. Elected 19.12.'47.

COLLINS.—On April 4, ARTHUR COLLINS, aged 63, a member of Leamington Spa Branch. Elected 27.4.'37.

DALLAS.—Suddenly, on March 29, JAMES DALLAS, a member of Belfast Branch. Elected 17.2.'32.

ELLIOT.—On April 5, Lieut.-Col. WALTER ROBERT ELLIOT, M.C. ('Tosher'), aged 69. Elected in Calcutta, June 1924.

FORMAN.—On April 6, Colonel GEORGE E. G. FORMAN, C.B.E., aged 72, a Scotland General member. Elected 29.2.'28.

GREED.—On April 6, ERNEST WILLIAM GREED, aged 75, a founder member of Newsome Branch. Elected 12.7.'60.

HALL.—On March 2, WILLIAM HALL, aged 72, a member of Stoke-on-Trent Branch. Elected 6.3.'61.

HESLAM.—On April 11, HUBERT FOSTER HESLAM, aged 66, a member of Batford Branch. Elected 17.5.'62.

HODKISSON.—On April 8, HARRY HODKISSON, aged 81, a member of Victoria, B.C. Branch. Elected January 1933.

JIMENEZ.—On April 6, VIVIAN EUSTACE JIMENEZ, O.B.E., aged 70, a Northern London Area member. Elected 23.3.'45.

RICHARDSON.—On March 3, CECIL JAMES RICHARDSON, aged 55, a member of Dartford Branch. Elected 28.4.'52.

RUNDLE.—On March 24, WILLIAM EDGAR FRANCIS RUNDLE, aged 57, a member of Plymouth Branch. Elected 1946.

SMETHURST.—On March 30, HAROLD SMETHURST, aged 56, a former member of Salford Branch. Elected February 1948.

STONE.—On April 3, ARTHUR STONE, a member of Maidenhead Branch. Elected 1927.

THORPE.—On April 6, FRED CLAUD THORPE, aged 62, a member of Uckfield Branch. Elected 8.10.'62.

VERCOE.—On March 18, JOHN ALFRED COPE VERCOE, aged 78, a member of Troon Branch. Elected 12.12.'52.

WELLS.—On March 2, WILLIAM HENRY WELLS, aged 78, a member of Llanbradach Branch. Elected 16.10.'31.

WHITMORE.—On March 24, DONALD FREDERICK WHITMORE, aged 57, a member of Edmonton Branch. Elected 22.2.'63.

‘Tosher’

ALEC CHURCHER

LT. COLONEL W. R. ELLIOT, M.C., (‘Tosher’ to his innumerable friends inside and outside Toc H), died in King Edward VIIth Hospital for Officers on Sunday, April 5. At his funeral, at All Souls Church, Langham Place, a large congregation of friends representing all the many phases of his life gathered to do him honour.

He was born on April 20, 1894, and was one of a family of ten. After a very short career as a journalist and with a tea-broking firm, he joined up on the first day of the Great War and served in France and the Middle East. He was Adjutant to his battalion at the age of twenty-two and by the end of the war had achieved an M.C. and the Order of the Nile, Third Class.

After demobilisation he joined the staff at Reuters but had not been working there long before he was invited by his old Colonel to join his firm of stockbrokers in Calcutta. So in 1920 he went out to India to begin a business career which was to keep him in India for thirty-three years and lead him to be head of the firm. In Calcutta he soon developed many interests. The Cathedral, the Oxford Mission and the racecourse all helped to absorb his abounding vitality. On one of his leaves he got to know Tubby and this was a prelude to his long service in Toc H. When Tubby at a later date came to Calcutta, Toc H was inaugurated at the Cathedral and ‘Tosher’ became its vigorous and imaginative Hon. Secretary. He later became Chairman of Toc H in India.

When the Second World War came he was caught up in all sorts of activities in Calcutta. By this time he had become Colonel of the Calcutta Scottish and an A.D.C. to the

Viceroy. He was closely connected with all the War Service work of Toc H in India and was Chairman of the East India War Fund.

In 1950 he retired from business but remained in India and became President of the Calcutta Y.M.C.A., an almost entirely Bengali concern, doing magnificent work among the vast student population of Calcutta. 'Tosher' threw himself into this work and in three years had restored it to its pre-war state of efficiency.

In 1953 he finally retired from India and returned to this country and from that day to the end of his life he gave



'Tosher' and Tubby

the bulk of his time to the work of Toc H. After a period as Overseas Commissioner he was seconded for a year to go out to Cyprus as Chairman of the Council of Voluntary Welfare Work there. Here again his unique personality and his single-minded devotion to the job in hand enabled him to make an outstanding success of a most difficult assignment. On his return to Britain he became the Schools Secretary of Toc H, a post which he held until his death. It was perhaps typical of him that although for eleven years he worked al-

most full-time for Toc H neither taking salary nor charging any expenses, he always refused to be known as Honorary, for he was determined that no distinction should be made between him and any other member of the staff.

Throughout his life 'Tosher' was a most devout Christian and it was his religion which gave meaning and pattern to the whole of it. There can be no better way of ending this tribute to him than by quoting the words of his brother, the Reverend Gilbert Elliot, at his funeral service. "... In his

young and vigorous years it was Charles Kingsley's virile Christianity and belief in human nature and human life that suited 'Tosher's' needs and to a great extent this remained so to the end. He was a tremendous optimist. He seemed to see 'all things very good'. He couldn't bear dismal talk about people or about the future. He thought the young today better than they have ever been. He was full of hope for the day when these splendid young people to whom he gave up much of his later life would become leaders in the community. Toc H from the first gave him an immense inspiration. 'The gospel of service', as he called it, was something that youth both needed and welcomed. So his great interest in Voluntary Service Overseas and later in Community Service Volunteers developed. But as life unfolded and his experience deepened he came, it seems, to a further development and found in All Souls, Langham Place, something he had been seeking all his life. Theologically (a word that would never have occurred to 'Tosher') he now realised the need of 'the gospel of a personal Saviour' . . ."

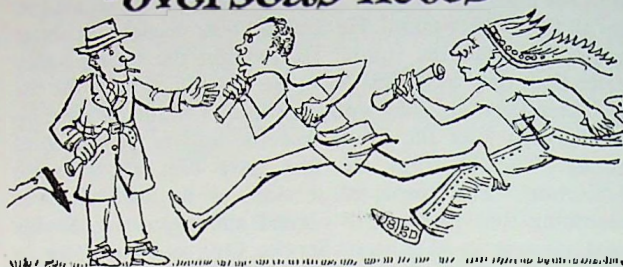
So his life, physical, mental, social, moral, spiritual, was indeed a pilgrimage. He never stopped and stayed. He lodged and moved on. Even on the last day of his conscious life he had a further career planned. He seemed confident that an operation would put him absolutely right. No doubt he felt that he must now do some different sort of service that made less demands upon him and this was already planned and decided. But in the providence of God this was not to be. His work was done.

Don't say brown

—say **Hovis**

FAR CRY

-overseas notes



Contributed by GEOFF MARTIN

Loch Eil to Glencairn

¶ A new venture, inspired by the Loch Eil project, was initiated in Cape Town in April when Toc H ran the first of a series of week-end training camps for boys from sixteen to twenty-one.

The venue was a permanent bungalow camp in Glencairn Valley, which traverses the mountain range three miles from Simonstown. The course covered first-aid, map-reading, mountaineering, rowing (under a S.A. Navy instructor), and bird-watching. The sixteen lads were divided into three patrols and competitions were arranged. On Sunday morning a period was devoted to individual projects of the boys' own choosing.

Voluntary service had its place in the programme. Set to work on a site selected by the camp authorities for an auxiliary camp and picnic area, the boys wielded saws, picks and spades with a will.

The inner man was looked after by the Fish Hoek Branch of Toc H Women's Association who proved quite equal to healthy young appetites.

By no means the least important aspect of the undertaking was the way in which it brought together lads from the two language groups and from different social backgrounds. Along with senior boys from public schools were Post Office trainees from a sub-economic housing estate. In true Toc H style friendships were fostered as common interests were established and a happy family spirit developed. They found it all good fun, as did the staff, a mixture of three Toc H'ers and three men from various walks of life brought in for their special abilities or experience.

The enthusiasm was such that not only is the attendance of all sixteen at Part 2 of the Scheme at the beginning of June assured, but there should be more than sufficient applicants for the unfilled eight places.

'Old Soldiers' party to Poperinge

Contrary to a general but out-of-date belief, 90 per cent of the people who stay at Talbot House in the summer are too young to have served in the First World War. The proportion in their twenties increases year by year.

The spirit is the same, but expressed differently; the Old House rings as true now as then, glory be.

Some may find it bewildering to think that this process of evolution seems to be leading us to the point where it is the 'Old Sweats' who must not be overlooked.

It has therefore been suggested by one or two older members that a mid-week visit (with wives) to the battle-fields of Ypres, Arras and Vimy should be arranged for October 5 - 9, leaving London on the Monday morning and returning on Friday afternoon. The cost of fares from London, meals and accommodation should be in the region of £12, excluding the cost of coach tours (which might amount to £3 or £4).

But first we must find a leader, and ascertain the demand for such a party. Those who would like to be included should send their names to Geoff Martin, Toc H H.Q.

Central Council Meeting

A New Toc H Arising

KEN PRIDEAUX-BRUNE

Need for experiment stressed

"I SEE A NEW Toc H arising alongside the old," was the theme of the keynote speech made by S. G. H. DAVIS (*Hon. Administrator*) to the Central Council, meeting at Halliday Hall, London, on April 18 and 19. "There is still a place for the old Toc H, but I hope also that I shall have the experience of a new Toc H. Give these new experiments your support."

George Davis said that Toc H was a mixture of good and bad, and he began by talking about the minus side.

Our membership has dropped from 19,000 in 1950 to 12,800 in 1963 and although we say that numbers don't matter, that means to me that there have been a lot of members who have not bothered enough about Toc H to see that someone else is there to take their place when they drop out, through death, or in any other way. . . . I have made many travels because I wanted to try and feel what is the pulse of the Movement. I hope I am wrong, but as I go around and talk to Toc H members I get the impression that two-thirds of the Branches in this country are stagnant. Small Branches not pushing the boat out at all, just quietly dying. That may be an exaggerated picture and I hope you can correct me, but that is the impression I have got.

He referred to articles by TOM GULLIVER and IAIN FRASER in the Spring issue of *New Forum*. Tom Gulliver's article had raised the question of the language we use in Toc H, which George was sure was in need of revision. "How relevant is our language," he asked, "to the men we are talking to today, and the men on the fringe of coming into the Movement today? Is it not time we looked at the ways in which we describe ourselves and bring them up-to-date?"

I don't want to lose the past but to put it in the right perspective." Iain Fraser's article had raised the need to re-think both the motives behind our jobs of service and the form and content of our meetings.



George Davis, Hon. Administrator; Col. John Davies, Chairman, Central Executive; and Cyril Cattell, General Secretary.

"What does all this mean to me as Administrator? It means this. I am using wrongly the money that you put into the hands of Headquarters if I allow the staff and encourage the staff merely to serve the organisation that has been handed down to us and is proving inadequate to the task today." The staff must be freed from the routine chores. "We voluntary members of Toc H have got to take on the organisation of this Movement and leave the staff free for tending the lines of communication, for fresh thinking and for teaching. This is one of the reasons why we have brought into being the Regional deployment scheme for staff." "It is wrong," he went on, "to leave men alone to work in solitude in Areas without regular contact with their fellows, without looking at the needs of the whole Area in which they are working."

George spoke of some of the experimental work that was going on with young people. "We don't go to schools", he said, "to talk about Toc H but to meet boys and to involve them in doing things together and experiencing life together." He mentioned the Toc H Volunteers, a register which was being formed of people "who cannot accept Toc H fully, but want to be associated with Toc H, linked with it, and to help it in what it is trying to do." He mentioned Mobile Action, a group of young people in London which had grown in numbers from three to forty in a matter of months, and which was giving service in Paddington and other areas of London. Their fellowship was real and genuine Toc H. "I do not think the organisation has to follow any particular mould. It has only to spread the kind of experience we know as Toc H."

Dr. S. F. MITCHELL (*Cent. Exec.*), in seconding the adoption of the Annual Report, said that his reaction to the Report was one of hope and encouragement:

In spite of the figures which George mentioned which we all know are not good and must be rectified, there are so many signs in this Report of change and new life in the Movement that one cannot help being cheered by it. . . . As the Report says, a living organism must adapt itself to survive, otherwise it will die, that is the whole process of evolution. Unless we adapt ourselves to new needs we shall go the way of nature's misfits, such as the dinosaur, and leave nothing behind except a few old fossils . . . but it does say a *living* organism, and it is important that we go on living. We cannot do this if we separate ourselves from the source of our life, and here we come to one of the number of challenges to the membership which are implicit in this Report, to rethink, or think for the first time, "What is Toc H?"

Appointments confirmed

Earlier the Council had confirmed the appointment of S. GEORGE H. DAVIS as Hon. Administrator until the end of the Council meeting in 1966, and had also confirmed the appointment of the Rev. A. G. (Bob) KNIGHT as Administrative Padre until the end of the Council meeting in 1965. Before asking the Council to confirm these appointments Col. JOHN A. DAVIES, the Chairman, had paid tribute to Padre JIM DAVIES. "As you will remember" he said, "Jim

was a part-time Administrative Padre." Jim had felt that it would not be possible to run Headquarters with two part-time people and so, when George Davis took over as Hon. Administrator, he had resigned. "I feel that this meeting would like to recognise the very great service that Jim did in his thirty-three years on the staff of Toc H. The many friends he made, the wise counsel, the understanding that he gave, will be remembered by many throughout the Areas. I feel that we as a Council should record our great appreciation to Jim for all he has done and wish him success in his parochial work."

A complete list of the appointments made and confirmed by the Central Council will be found at the end of this report.

Schoolboys at Poperinge

Nine boys spent a week in April living in the Old House and working on the Pool of Peace. JOHN MITCHELL (*Schools Sec.*) said that another party of young people, drawn mainly from Mobile Action, would be going to Poperinge for the Whitsun weekend and would spend a day working for a Home for mentally handicapped children. He said that this might perhaps foreshadow a new pattern of Poperinge visits.

John spoke about other projects run by the Schools team during the past year, and gave brief details of the six projects planned for the summer of 1964, three of which, he said, had been "found for us by Toc H locally."

Good News from Loch Eil

"Our best year yet." That was how ALAN HILL (*Warden*) summed up 1963 at Loch Eil. In 1964 Loch Eil would have seven courses, catering for about 180 boys in all, and there would be many more in 1965. The Centre would be moving into new premises during the winter. Alan paid tribute to the active help so willingly given by many Toc H members in Scotland, without which it would have been impossible for the Centre to open on time this year.

Local Autonomy for the Marks

The Central Houses Committee was being disbanded, said GERRY HAYES (*Chairman, Central Houses Committee*). Instead, local teams of management were being recruited to help and advise the Warden of each Mark. He went on: "Don't judge a Mark by the number of meetings held. Judge it rather by the sincerity of its service and the strength of its fellowship and corporate life. A Mark at its best is one of the finest instruments for good that Toc H has yet devised."

The Forgotten Army

"Come and help us" was the theme of the report from BILL GIBB (*Toc H Commissioner with B.A.O.R.*). He began by saying that those who worked in the Services Clubs felt that the bulk of the membership was unaware of the job that was being done. This job was a changing one. The Clubs were now acting as community centres, with responsibilities not only to the troops, but to their families as well. He ended by stressing the need for Toc H members who would be prepared to give two or three years to helping to run the Clubs.

New Role of the District Team

CYRIL ROWLEY (*Cent. Exec.*) said that the giving of executive responsibilities to District Teams was not merely administrative juggling, but something very much deeper. It involved a complete rethinking of the role of the District Team. The District Team should accept responsibility for the pastoral care of Branches and members in their District. The new scheme had been tried in about half the Areas, but its significance had yet to be fully felt. The scheme was still in its experimental stages, but it could surely go some way towards relieving the staff of some of their chores and releasing them for their real work.

P. K. HUNT (*Western*) asked whether dying Branches were the responsibility of the staff man or of the District Team. The Hon. Administrator replied that the Area Team should be called on to help with problems of this kind.



Informal consultations in the open air.

Regional Staffing opposed

P. N. DANMERS (*South Western*) rose to express his Area's dissatisfaction with the new plan by which staff were to operate on a Regional basis. He said that he felt that the scheme should not have been put into operation without reference to the Central Council. As far as the South West were concerned there were major practical objections to the scheme because of the great size of the Region. They were unhappy about the loss of their Area Office and, more particularly, about the partial loss of their staff man. In reply GEORGE DAVIS (*Hon. Administrator*) said that the whole question of the deployment of staff had been referred to the Central Executive by the Central Council in 1961. "I do not accept that we operate only from meeting to meeting." Ample time had been given for consultation on matters of detail before the plan came into operation. The plan would not be applied woodenly, and every member of staff would continue to have his special Area responsibility. But the staff should be available for extension work on a Regional basis.

Earlier in the afternoon HUGH BEETON (*Cent. Exec.*) had asked the Council to give the new Administrator their support. They took this early opportunity of doing so.

Annual Report

F. M. WOOTTON (*East Anglia*) regretted that the Annual Report was no longer printed in the JOURNAL. It was difficult for Councillors to discuss the Annual Report with Branches when few of the members had had an opportunity to read it. G. E. DIXON (*East Mids.*), G. J. WILLCOCKS (*South Western*) and F. C. TAYLOR (*West Mids.*) supported him. D. E. J. WOOLLEY (*Kent*) said that the booklet *Code of Friendship* had been most valuable and he hoped that booklets of this kind would continue to be published. The Chairman asked for a general expression of opinion from the Council to guide the Executive in its discussion of this question, and the Council expressed itself as favouring the incorporation in the JOURNAL of the Annual Report, with the new-style booklet as a supplement. One unbiased observer could not help thinking that as the Report was normally printed in the April JOURNAL, it was unlikely to reach Branches more than a week before the Council.



A queue to see the Botha's Hill pictures.

Jubilee Plans Outlined

"Let next year serve to tell the world of our past successes" said HARRY MILLS (*Cent. Exec.*), reporting on the work of the Jubilee Team, "and to point the way to the

great possibilities of the future." The Central Executive, he said, regarded the Jubilee as "a wonderful opportunity widely to publicise not only the very existence of Toc H but to tell the world what we do and what we plan to do in the future. We hope that every Area, District, Branch and individual member, including our General Members and Builders, will take some part in our Jubilee and enjoy the festival we celebrate next year so that we move into the future refreshed and encouraged."

Harry gave details of the London Week, which lasts in fact from Friday, May 14, to Sunday, May 23. COLIN CAMPBELL (*Jubilee Secretary*) mentioned some of the many activities which had already been planned by Areas, Districts and individual Branches up and down the country. Among the more unusual jublations expected are the following—an archery competition, a cruise on the Norfolk Broads, a family weekend at Butlin's Holiday Camp at Clacton in January and even a tiddlywinks competition. Special projects being undertaken for Jubilee Year range from the placing of benches in the vicinity of an Old People's Home to the establishment of a new Home for multiple sclerosis patients. Poperinge proposed to offer Tubby the Freedom of the town, and the possibility of renaming one of the streets "Avenue Toc H" was being discussed. A special Jubilee badge was being produced for all those taking part in the celebrations of the Jubilee, and Jubilee stationery would be printed.

Two African ventures

¶ "The Jubilee must not be regarded only as an opportunity for publicity", said Colin. "We must be prepared to make a constructive contribution to the world at large during 1965." One way in which this will be done was described by JACK HARRISON (*Finance Secretary*). Toc H were being asked to help DON MCKENZIE to extend the work which he had already begun at the Botha's Hill T.B. Settlement, South Africa. His new project was nothing less than an attempt to help a whole people to stand on its own feet. If the African was to remain healthy after his discharge from the Settlement

he had to be taught the elementary rules of agriculture and of hygiene. For this purpose it was essential to employ an agriculturalist and a health visitor—and both must be

Africans. The scheme would cost initially £1,500 a year, and the Central Executive had undertaken to support it at this rate for five years. Jack was sure that the whole of this money could be raised in Jubilee Year. He mentioned two tools which were available to assist Branches in raising this money; firstly, a superbly produced full-colour brochure; secondly, a set of slides with tape-recorded commentary, suitable for showing at Guest-nights. It was to be hoped



Jack Harrison 'plugs' the Etembeni brochure.

that Guest-nights would be held in the Areas throughout the winter months.

Another overseas project was described by HUGH BEETON (*Cent. Exec.*). This, known as the Dennis Etheredge Project, envisaged a fraternal visit to Central Africa by a team of ten or twelve members, who would act as ambassadors from Toc H in the United Kingdom, and would help in any way they could in the reconciliation of man with man.

Eighty-six new 'probings'

The possibility of starting a new unit of Toc H was being actively explored in eighty-six different places, said CYRIL CATTELL (*General Secretary*). He was reporting on the progress made towards doubling the membership by the beginning of Jubilee Year, the target set by the Council in 1963. Although there had not yet been an appreciable increase in the rate of growth there was, he said, "a new

liveliness and genuine desire to do something about extension." Experience seemed to show that an increase was most likely to come in the shape of new units. He went on:

It is true that many—too many—of our Branches have settled down to a quiet routine. They would be reluctant to suffer the disturbance of an influx of new men with new ideas.

But there are many others where the best things of Toc H are evident even only upon a brief first visit. They succeed—and deserve to. We need more of them and this will require a degree of commitment from many of us greatly in excess of our past performance. It can be done—but not just by the passing of a resolution. It *will* be done by men who, through their conviction concerning the relevance of Toc H, *are resolute* in seeing that more men experience it.



George Davis and John Davies in discussion with Tubby.

Brighter meeting rooms

The dismal squalor in which so many Branches meet was eloquently described by J. TALLANT (*Sussex*). He was seconding a Resolution, proposed by J. BOOTH (*Sussex*), which called on Branches, as the keynote of their preparations for the Jubilee, "to improve and modernise the furnishings and decoration of Branch meeting rooms".

Though Councillors appeared unwilling to listen to the whole of J. Booth's speech, they voted unanimously for his Resolution and hope that it will be widely acted upon.

Alec Churcher and Jack Harrison

JACK HARRISON announced to the Council that he would be leaving the staff later in the year in order to train for the ministry. He took the opportunity of paying tribute to the members of his staff, especially to Miss GRACE ADAMS, who would probably be retiring fairly soon and who for twenty years had grappled with the Mark accounts. He spoke of his excitement about all the new experiments that were being planned. "Under George" he said, "this Movement is going to have a great future." STANLEY BERWICK (*Hon. Treasurer*) said that Jack had never seen the job of Finance Secretary as purely a business one. Jack had been in the Movement because of his vision of what Toc H could be. His going would be deeply regretted.

ALEC CHURCHER also announced officially that he would be leaving the staff in May. "I believe in Toc H" he said, "more than I have ever done." But it was time to make way for younger men. He hoped that his going would make it possible to appoint one or two younger men to the staff. R. L. BRADLEY (*Cent. Exec.*) ended a moving and eloquent tribute to Alec with the words; "Thank you for everything you have done for Toc H and for everything you have been to each and every one of us."

Financial Target still not reached

S. V. BERWICK (*Hon. Treasurer*), in presenting the Accounts, said that although the money subscribed by the membership had increased we had still not reached the target of an average of 52s. per member per year, and even that target was no longer realistic. "There has been" he said, "an increase in income in the past ten or twelve years but it is not keeping in step with the inflation that has taken place." He spoke of the likelihood of our expenditure going up in the coming year if all the new and exciting projects of

which the Council had been told were to be launched. "We must top this 52s. target by October this year." DUDLEY HERRING (*Cent. Exec.*), in seconding the adoption of the Accounts, said that giving should be from the heart. "It is not a duty to give to Toc H, it is rather a privilege."

JACK HARRISON (*Finance Sec.*) and HAROLD BRAMLEY (*East Mids.*) pursued the same theme when reporting on the results of the Resolution passed by the Council in 1963 calling for the balancing of the budget before the opening of Jubilee Year. Jack called for an increase in income from Appeals (and he mentioned the appointment of ARTHUR NOBLE to strengthen the Appeals team), from donations from those who had retired from active membership of the Movement, and from a new sense of stewardship by the members themselves. Harold spoke of the work of the newly-formed stewardship team, which was doing its best to make members aware of their financial responsibilities.

A Resolution calling for "a minimum contribution from members of twopence per pound of income" was overwhelmingly defeated. The Resolution was moved by F. L. PETCH (*Beds. & Herts.*) and seconded by D. COOPER (*Beds. & Herts.*). The general feeling of the Councillors seemed to be summed up by S. W. AINSLEY (*E. London*)—let us meet our present target before accepting another one. To pass the Resolution would be no more than playing with words.

Joint Units no 'gimmick'

"I can assure you after my experience of a Joint Branch that they are no 'gimmick' and have an important part to play in Toc H in the future," said J. M. WEAR (*Oxford & Thames Valley*) in moving a Resolution calling on "those engaged in extension work at Area and District level to investigate the possibilities of promoting Joint Units in their Areas and Districts." "The 'men only' Branch" he went on, "will, I'm sure, be the backbone of the Movement when we celebrate our hundred years of Toc H, but I would like to see in our towns the three kinds of Branches—men's women's and joint. By forming these we would be giving

our prospective members a choice of membership." The Resolution, which was seconded by I. HERD (*Oxford & Thames Valley*), was passed without discussion.

Earlier GEORGE DAVIS (*Hon. Administrator*) had referred to the Resolution passed by the Central Council in 1963, which had requested "that the Central Executive investigate further ways and means of bringing about a more integrated Movement." He said that the Central Executive had had this in mind during the year. "There has developed" he said, "a much closer working with the Women's Association, not only at Headquarters and Regional level, but in the Branches and Areas. . . . the next step falls to the Branches and Areas for continued progress in co-operation at the grass roots of the Movement in the field itself."

'Starting Up'

A Resolution from the S.E. London Area, moved by H. E. NAYLOR and seconded by D. NEWTON, asked that the



Harold Naylor and Denis Newton

Central Executive "explore the possibility of allowing newly started units of Toc H to have access (subject to well-defined conditions) to financial assistance to help them establish themselves."

S. V. BERWICK (*Hon. Treasurer*) said in reply that the provision of funds for this purpose was the responsibility of the District Team.

If, in a particular instance, additional funds were required, he was sure that the Central Finance Committee would treat a request sympathetically. The Resolution was defeated.

Too Old for Toc H ?

"Inhuman and destructive." That was how TONY LEE described the Resolution, which called on the Central Executive "to consider the imposition of an upper age limit for

active membership of Toc H." In proposing the Resolution F. L. PETCH (*Beds. & Herts.*) said that Toc H was started by young men, "eager young men, seeking for action not words; urgent young men, impatient of delay; angry young men, with crusaders' swords in their hands and fire in their bellies . . . Those men of the Twenties were not the special product of a unique generation. There have always been men like that. There always will be men like that. There are men *now* like that." Older men must step aside, so that the younger men may take over the leadership.

This proposal, seconded by D. COOPER (*Beds. & Herts.*), certainly sparked the Council into life, but the motion was defeated.

Longer term of office

A Resolution asking that in order to "provide better continuity of the Central Council, the term of office of Central Councillors be ex-



John Hebbditch, Padre Ron Hall
and A. E. J. Thorning.

tended for three years, one-third to retire annually" was carried. The Resolution was proposed by F.W. DIVES (*Kent*) and seconded by H. HALL (*Kent*). CYRIL CATTELL (*General Sec.*) said that a similar Resolution had been referred to the Central Executive ten years previously. He thought that many of the

arguments which caused the Executive to reject the proposal then would still apply. However, the matter could certainly be referred to them again. F. H. HOLLAND (*N. London*) asked that the method of nominating Central Executive candidates be reconsidered at the same time, to allow for the support of one Central Councillor and one other member instead of two Central Councillors, as at present.

More Publicity

H. E. NAYLOR (*S.E. London*) urged that more money, time and effort be spent on publicity. At present there was not enough publicity, and what there was was too oblique. No attempt was made to state clearly what Toc H stood for. He moved a Resolution, seconded by D. NEWTON (*S.E. London*), in the following terms:

"That more effort be given to obtaining publicity about Toc H activities and personalities (especially in national papers and magazines), with a view to fostering a clearer understanding of Toc H and its aims."

An amendment moved by D. V. POPE (*Southern*) and seconded by I. HERD (*Oxford & Thames Valley*), which sought to delete the words "and personalities" was defeated. The Resolution as originally proposed was carried.



The Hon. Angus Ogilvy, Vice-Patron, is invested with a Toc H tie by the Chairman.

Vice-Patron's visit

The Central Council was honoured by a visit from the newly appointed Vice-Patron of Toc H, the Hon. ANGUS OGILVY, who attended the informal session on the Saturday

evening. HUGH BEETON (*Cent. Exec.*) who was in the Chair, began the session by giving a very warm welcome to ALAN COWLING from South Australia and CHARLES WAKE, recently returned from Canada. TUBBY, who was given a great ovation, spoke of his visits to Toc H Branches in Australia and New Zealand. He was cheerful and in good spirits and looked remarkably well in spite of the fact that he had returned from his world tour only two days before.

There were two other informal sessions. On the Friday evening there was what was described on the programme as a *Divertissement* (the General Secretary wisely decided against calling it an Entertainment in advance). This was staged by members of Mobile Action and residents from two of the London Marks, and was well received.

On the Saturday morning there was a talk from ALEC DICKSON, Hon. Director of Community Service Volunteers. This, for many of those present, was the high spot of the weekend, and to attempt to summarise so exciting and challenging a speech in a few sentences would be gross impertinence. Extracts from it will be published in the JOURNAL at a later date.

An experiment



Vice-Presidents both. Ronnie Symons and L. Prideaux-Brune.

The Central Council meeting of 1964 cannot be described as exciting or momentous. It was not, however, without significance. As Col. JOHN DAVIES, the Chairman, said in his summing-up, one theme was strongly apparent throughout. The message of Toc H is being carried to the world of the 1960's in new ways. It is of the essence of Toc H that it is, and must always be, an experiment. Its spirit is

changeless, but its forms and patterns must be always changing. The message of the Council may be very simply summarised. Don't be afraid of new ideas, for when Toc H ceases to experiment it will become an institution, and no longer Toc H.

Appointments

The Council appointed with acclamation, on the proposal of S. V. BERWICK (*Hon. Treasurer*), seconded by R. L. BRADLEY (*Cent. Exec.*), the following to be Vice-Presidents of the Corporation:

The Rev. HERBERT LEGGATE, M.C.
L. PRIDEAUX-BRUNE
RONALD S. SYMONS, C.M.G., C.I.E.

In confirming the appointment of S. GEORGE H. DAVIS as Hon. Administrator with effect from May 1963 to the end of the annual meeting in 1966, the Council endorsed the tribute that the Chairman accorded to him, and thanked him for accepting the office in an honorary capacity.

The appointment of the Rev. A. G. (Bob) KNIGHT as Administrative Padre as from July 1963 to the end of the annual meeting in 1965 was also confirmed.

On the proposal of the Administrative Padre, seconded by T. A. R. GULLIVER (*Cent. Exec.*), the following appointments and re-appointments as Hon. Association Padres were confirmed:

Overseas: The Rev. W. A. FRASER (*Presb.*)—Australia.
The Rt. Rev. Dr. T. T. REED, Bishop of Adelaide,
S. Australia.
The Rt. Rev. K. CLEMENTS, Bishop of Canberra
and Goulburn, Australia.
The Rev. N. SONNERS (*C. of E.*)—Australia.
The Ven. G. H. PUGH (*C. of E.*)—Central Africa.
The Rev. L. N. WATKINS (*C. of E.*)—New Zealand
The Rev. W. R. P. EVANS—*Church of S. Africa.*
The Most Rev. L. W. BROWN—Archbishop of
Uganda.

All with effect until 31.12.66.

Home: The Rev. R. K. HALL (*Baptist*).
For period of Staff appointment.

The New Central Executive

Councillors were given due notice that the following members of the Central Executive then in office were not offering themselves for re-election: D. F. HERRING, H. L. HUGHES, R. J. R. TREFUSIS.

Full particulars of all candidates had been sent to Councillors beforehand. On the recommendation of the outgoing Central Executive, Colonel Sir THOMAS BUTLER, Bt., D.S.O., O.B.E., was elected by show of hands, on the proposal from the Chair.

Fifteen places remained to be filled by ballot from among eighteen candidates, seven on the London and Home Counties List and eight from the Rest of the United Kingdom.

The Central Executive for 1964-65 thus consists of thirteen members of the previous year's Executive, three new members, two others co-opted and four ex-officio:

APPOINTED MEMBER:

Col. Sir THOMAS BUTLER, Bt. (*Resident Governor and Major, H.M. Tower of London*).

ELECTED MEMBERS:

A—LONDON AND HOME COUNTIES: W. HUGH BEETON (*Southern London Area*). R. L. BRADLEY (*Western London Area, Chairman, Schools Advisory Committee*). The Rev. COLIN CUTTELL (*Hon. Deputy Administrative Padre, Vicar of All Hallows*). HARRY GELL (*Bromley Branch, S.E. London Area*). TOM A. R. GULLIVER (*Marshalswick Branch, Beds. & Herts. Area*). DONALD E. LOCKHART (*Berkhamsted Branch, Beds. & Herts. Area*). HARRY D. MILLS (*Mill Hill Branch, Northern London Area*).

B—REST OF THE UNITED KINGDOM: ARNOLD BEARDMORE (*Chelmsford Branch, E. London Area*). JIM B. BRADFORD (*North Shields Branch, Northern Area*). Colonel JOHN A. DAVIES (*Stevenage Branch, Beds. & Herts. Area*). TOM F. GILBERT (*Ashford Branch, Kent Area*). ROBERT A. R. LESLIE (*Edinburgh Branch, Scottish Executive*). Dr. S. F. MITCHELL (*Beckley Branch, Sussex Area*). JOHN B. POOLE (*Kettering Branch, East Midlands Area*). CYRIL A. ROWLEY (*Chippenham Branch, Western Area*).

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS:

STANLEY V. BERWICK (*Sevenoaks Branch, Kent Area; Hon. Treasurer*). The Rev. Dr. P. B. CLAYTON (*Founder Padre*). S. GEORGE H. DAVIS (*Hon. Administrator*). The Rev. A. G. (Bob) KNIGHT (*Administrative Padre*).

CO-OPTED MEMBERS:

W. ANTHONY LEE (*Hackney Branch, E. London Area*). G. A. (Bob) TABERSHAM (*Wallingford Joint Branch, Oxford & Thames Valley Area*).

YES!



OPEN

HUSTINGS

-readers' letters

NO!



Approach to Youth

THERE IS MORE in common between the Weymouth Pioneers and the Branksome Pioneers than John Mitchell's letter in the March JOURNAL would suggest. One has only to turn to page 110 to find Fred Brooker listing jobs of work that the Branksome Pioneers have been doing.

It is true that the Weymouth Pioneers hold a Rushlight, but this was in the nature of an experiment and does not necessarily mean that they will eventually become a Branch of Toc H. Both these groups agree with the idea of being 'associated' with Toc H and this is a challenge to Toc H to devise some kind of framework into which young people can fit. If such a framework existed it is almost certain that many Branches throughout the country could immediately set groups going within their own neighbourhood — what better 'shot in the arm' could we have for Jubilee Year?

Weymouth,
Dorset.

DAVID POPE

Jubilee

WE ARE URGED to discuss and further the Ecumenical Movement by all means possible. What are we doing about it? What is your Branch doing? There is still a reluctance amongst Christian congregations to get together, and even when they do there appears to me much stiffness or formality. Surely this is where Toc H, with its tradition of fellowship, could assist? Cannot we call together an annual social gathering of all Christian bodies at our Branch meeting places?

The time should obviously be the week of Christian Unity which falls in January each year. Why not start this in January, 1965, our Jubilee Year, and continue it as an annual event?

It is urged that such meetings be light and humorous, e.g., a bit of light entertainment, a well set out buffet (ladies please note—men cannot do such things). A clergyman and, say, two members of his congregation might be invited.

Will all units that decide to adopt this idea please let Colin Campbell know so that he can measure its success, please? This is a Jubilee project which may go on for many years until Unity is achieved. Go to it!

Richmond, Surrey. TIM DALY

Prisoners of Conscience

YOUR CORRESPONDENT, Mr. S. Woodall, writing in your March issue, tells of the fine work being done by Amnesty International, with whom this Society has close co-operation.

He begins, however, by saying "most members would be concerned if physical slavery were rampant today. . . . Fortunately this exists in only one or two isolated instances."

This, unfortunately, is not so. In one country alone—Saudi Arabia—the authoritative estimate of the number of slaves was 250,000 in November, 1962, when slavery was decreed illegal. No repatriation or resettlement has been offered, so those slaves emancipated must remain with their owners or go hungry. It is reported (by the *New York Sunday News* on 23 June, 1963) that the West Pakistan police had recently formed a new branch to stop the traffic in small boys. 3,000 were said to have been exported for male prostitution.

If your readers wish to have further information this Society will provide it.

J. R. P. MONTGOMERY

*The Anti-Slavery Society,
Denison House,
296 Vauxhall Bridge Road,
London, S.W.1.*

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October 7th, 1965

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Frozen Assets

JOHN GINGELL

IT IS PLEASANT, occasionally, to find oneself in the role of the grandmother being taught to suck eggs, but Mark Gibbs and T. Ralph Morton, authors of *God's Frozen People*, can surely never have heard of Toc H or they must have mentioned it in their book as an example of the sort of relationships and actions they look for in a Christian society.

They believe that the organisation of the Churches is such that the clergyman dominates the proceedings and laymen are merely passive supporters—"The assumption *God's Frozen People*. — Fontana 3s. 6d.

is that the layman is one of the privates in God's army; and the officers are the clergy. As if there were two grades of Christian—first class: parsons, and second class: laity." This point is returned to again and again throughout the book. In the opinion of the authors, it is this situation which makes laymen disinclined to join the Churches, and those who are already in leave.—"In the end they give up and join the huge army of lapsed." The book is a continuing indictment of the Churches' failure to recognise or encourage the proper vocation of the layman, with the result that there are many spheres, such as industry, or service, in which this vocation is not being fulfilled.

The Layman in the Church

The authors further feel that this situation leads to a tragic misdirection of effort into buildings and machinery rather than people—"One of the most sinful results is the sheer economic waste of God's resources which it entails." It also fails to mobilise the great mass of people on the fringe of the Churches—"The Church is pathetically unable to mobilise a large number of these people for social service. . . . And yet the educational psychologists have told us for fifty years that it is doing things together that produces 'fellowship'. Many of these people are willing to serve the Christian Church as an organisation committed to service and yet all they are asked to do is to listen to sermons, sing incomprehensible hymns, and teach in Sunday school."

We are all professionals

There is a good deal in these criticisms. There are Churches which are far too introspective, which are centres for soul-culture or propaganda machines for particular doctrines, but this is not all the story. What makes this book so infuriating is the way in which a part-truth, the clericalisation of the Churches, is repeated again and again as the great stumbling block to progress. Yet the charge being levelled against the Churches is not, in fact, clericalism but

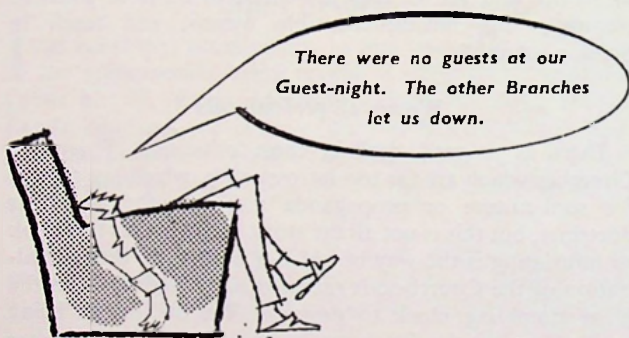
the irrelevance of their doctrines. At the same time, there is a real widening of the interests of the laity who are in the Churches, through industrial missions, summer schools, time and talents campaigns and the like, and it is usually the clergy who stir these interests.

The Essentials

The real point of the book is that we can now take nothing for granted, either the social position of clergy, or their pre-eminence as arbiters of faith and morals, and so the whole Church, of which the clergy are but a part, must sit down together and work out what being the Body of Christ means for this century.

¶ It may well be that Toc H has a lot to teach when it is true to its vision. It can hardly be said to exalt its Padres. It concentrates on the essentials of fellowship and service without a lot of ecclesiastical and doctrinal paraphernalia, and it properly sees its role as a true missionary society in its outreach and in its attempt to interpret the Gospel for to-day.

Ernie says :



Journal Smalls

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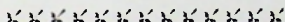
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